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muticus, Pursh.; *Cirsium pumilum*=*Cnicus pumilus*, Torr.; *Cirsium horridulum*=*Cnicus horridulus*, Pursh.; *Cirsium arvense*=*Cnicus arvensis*, Hoffm.; *Lappa officinalis*=*Arctium Lappa*, L.; *Cynthia Virginica*=*Krigia amplexicaulis*, Nutt.; *Cynthia Dandelion*=*Krigia Dandelion*, Nutt.; *Hieracium scabrum*, in part=*H. Marianum*, Willd.; *Nabalus albus*=*Prenanthes alba*, L.; *Nabalus albus*, var. *Serpentaria* *Prenanthes Serpentina*, Pursh.; *Nabalus altissimus*=*Prenanthes altissima*, L.; *Nabalus Fraseri*=*Prenanthes Serpentina*, Pursh.; *Nabalus Fraseri*, var. *integrifolius*=*P. Serpentina*, var. *barbata*, Gray; *Nabalus nanus*=*Prenanthes Serpentina*, var. *nana*, Gray; *Nabalus Bootii*=*Prenanthes Bootii*, Gray; *Nabalus virgatus*=*Prenanthes virgata*, Michx.; *Nabalus racemosus*=*Prenanthes racemosa*, Michx.; *Nabalus crepidineus*=*Prenanthes crepidinea*, Michx.; *Taraxacum Dens-leonis*=*T. officinale*, Weber; *Lactuca Canadensis*, var. *integrifolia*=*L. integrifolia*, Bigel.; *Lactuca Canadensis*, var. *sanguinea*=*L. hirsuta*, Muhl.; *Mulgedium pulchellum*=*Lactuca pulchella*, D C.; *Mulgedium acuminatum*=*Lactuca acuminata*, Gray; *Mulgedium Floridanum*=*L. Floridana*, Gaertn.; *Mulgedium leucophæum*=*L. leucophæa*.

A. F. FOERSTE.

Botanical Notes from Kansas.—As it is rarely that we see any communications from this State concerning our flora, in any of our botanical publications, I have thought a few lines in regard to it might be of interest. I made a trip during the first week of September out as far as Harper County, a little over three hundred miles southwest of Kansas City, Mo., traveling over the Southern Kansas R. R., which runs through the best counties in the State. Fine crops were noticed in every county through which I passed. The emigration to Southern Kansas this year is very large.

The following is a list of some of the plants collected on this trip: *Mentzelia ornata*, T. & G., Harper Co.; *Eryngium Leavenworthii*, T. & G., Allen Co., common; *Grindelia lanceolata*, Nutt., Southern Kansas; *Helianthus Maximiliani*, Schrader, common everywhere I traveled; *H. petiolaris*, Nutt., in Cowley Co. and west, common in Harper Co.; *Coreopsis cardaminifolia*, DC., Cowley and Harper Counties; *Thelesperma gracile*, Gray, Harper Co.; *Liatris punctata*, Hook., found here, and common southwest; *Hosackia Purshiana*, Benth., grows here and is common in Harper Co.; *Dalea laxiflora*, Pursh., Harper Co.; *Aster patens*, L., near Independence; *Dicliptera brachiata*, Spr., Cowley Co.; *Solanum elæagnifolium*, Cav., Cowley and Harper Counties; *Eriogonum tomentosum*, Mx., common in Harper Co.; *Atriplex hastata*, L., Sumner Co.; *Frelichia Floridana*, Moq., Harper Co., common. Southwestern and Western Kansas are fine fields for botanists.

Paola, Kansas.

J. H. OYSTER.

Death of John Williamson.—We have to mourn the premature death of this gifted man, who passed away on the 17th of June. Mr. Williamson was born in Scotland in 1857, came to this country in 1866, and established himself in Louisville, Ky., at first in the business of wood-carving, and afterwards in a foundry for ornamental brass-work. An innate taste for decorative art here found oppor-

tunity for development, and an ardent love for nature gave truthful direction to his taste. In 1878 appeared in an unexpected quarter a little treatise upon the "Ferns of Kentucky," which surprised all fern lovers by the beauty and novel form of its illustrations. These were etchings by Mr. Williamson's own hand, transferred to the lithographic stone. This was soon after followed by the publication of a work illustrating the ferns of the region covered by Gray's Manual. In this work the plates were printed directly from the etchings, and the book appeared under the modest title of "Fern Etchings." This work not only supplied a real want in the world of science, but surprised and delighted all lovers of the art he was so successfully cultivating, and the best art-critics were loud in encomium. Encouraged by this, he was giving himself to the fuller cultivation of his powers in that direction, when his health failed, and he was taken away at the outset of a career which gave such promise of brilliancy, leaving behind him a widowed mother, to whom he had manifested a tender filial devotion. His friend Mr. Davenport has done justice to the sterling excellencies of his character in a touching sketch in a recent number of the *Botanical Gazette*.

J. H. R.

Botanical Notes.

The May-flower.—It has been suggested that the delicate and modest little flower which we call the May-flower should be adopted as the emblem of the loyalists, because it is in full bloom at the season of the year when they landed on these rocky shores. In connection with this it may not be out of place to inquire as to the use of the word May-flower or "May-blossom" in the past; and especially to ask what was the *May-flower of the loyalists*? Was their May-flower identical with our spring favorite, or was it some other plant, to us unknown, or if known, called by some other name.

Our May-flower has been named by botanists *Epigæa repens* or the plant that *creeps on the ground*—a name very appropriate to its habit of grow, that it forms patches of foliage. . . . It belongs to the great family of the heaths, and its nearest allies in this country are the bear-berry, spicy wintergreen and tea-berry. They, like the May-flower have evergreen leaves, and differ in this respect from most of the American heaths.

But the purpose of these remarks is not so much to describe the May-flower and its habits as to inquire whether this flower of ours was the May-flower of the loyalists. The writer was very much surprised many years ago, on being told by an old lady who came here with the loyalists, that our plant (*Epigæa repens*) was *not* the May-flower. Among the wild flowers that were afterwards shown to her she at once recognized one as the true May-flower. This was the plant which is now called the spring beauty (*Claytonia Caroliniana*), a delicate little plant with two opposite leaves, which are not unlike an Indian's canoe-paddle in shape, and having a cluster of nodding pink flowers between the leaves. The short stem which the spring beauty annually sends up comes from a little brown tuber buried deep in the rich mould of the hardwood forest. The plant differs